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The next generation of local farming

AM Ranch, Super Tuber Farm team up

By Valerie Costa
Staff Writer

Across the nation, the small family farm is in decline. But in Nevada County, there is a whole new generation that has taken up the mantle of organic farming and finding new and creative ways to make a go at this difficult but rewarding way of life.

This is not surprising given the area's fertile soil, agricultural heritage and the fact that this was a mecca in the 1960s-70s for the "back to the land" movement.

What the younger generation is finding is that farming can be a costly endeavor. Between fees for permits, water, the high cost of land and much more, it is nearly impossible for one family to start a new farm or ranch. But with the innovative spirit of America's youth, millennials are finding a way to make their farming dreams come true by working together for the good of all.

That is just what two young families did and now the collaboration between Super Tuber Farm and AM Ranch has both businesses thriving and growing each year.

Jeremy Mineau, one of the owners of Super Tuber Farm, was wondering how he was going to manage that much space and was interested in renting part of his land to another farmer. He hoped they could share the work of keeping up the land.

Enter AM Ranch, and the

RANCH, A6

COMING SOON

This is one of the stories featured in the Nevada County Rancher, which you'll find tucked into the Monday edition of The Union. For more on this story, find it at TheUnion.com.



Jeremy Mineau, one of the owners of Super Tuber Farm, is all in on collaborating with the people over at AM Ranch.



The Super Tuber Farm team has joined up with AM Ranch in an effort to keep both organizations thriving.

GRASS VALLEY

Couple faces gun, drug accusations

By Alan Riquelmy
Staff Writer

A Grass Valley couple faces weapons and drug accusations after local and federal officers descended Thursday on a Towle Lane home, authorities said.

The arrest of Michael Smith, 44, stems from a months-long investigation by federal Homeland Security Investigations involving the sale of illegal AR-15 rifles. Smith faces charges of unlawful dealing

and manufacturing in firearms and unlawful possession of an unregistered firearm, documents state.

Smith remained Friday afternoon in the Sacramento County Jail without bond, records show.

Julie Mae Smith, 42, faces state charges of manufacturing a controlled substance, possession of a controlled substance while armed, possession of a controlled substance and a

CHARGES, A8



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY CINDY SHAW

A Tibetan nun shows her appreciation for a hearing aid donated by the Tibetan Refugee Hearing Project, which was launched by Cindy Shaw of Smartsville.

Hearing a difference

Nevada County speech pathologist brings donated hearing devices to Tibetan refugees

By Cory Fisher
Staff Writer

In 2014, Cindy Shaw, a former Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital speech pathologist, took her first trip to the Indian village of McLeod Ganj, which is known for its large population of Tibetan refugees and is home to the Dalai Lama.

FOR MORE

To learn more about the Tibetan Refugee Hearing Project, contribute to the project or donate a hearing aid, contact Cindy Shaw at Cindyashaw@gmail.com or donate a molded analog hearing aid: Audiology Associates Hearing Center 101 Margaret lane, Ste. D in Grass Valley Specify that the donation is for the Tibetan Refugee Hearing Project

A longtime member of Sierra Friends of Tibet, Shaw had taken a three month sabbatical to study

HEARING, A6

WEATHER

H: 63°
L: 40°

See full forecast, Page A9

Sunny



OBITUARIES

Freda Beckett; Harold Graves; Phyllis Hazelwood; David Alan Hughes; John Christopher Johnson; William C. Personeni; Ron Sibley; Alden Richard Tagg

Page A7 & A8

San Francisco firefighters rescue 2 dogs from cliff
SAN FRANCISCO — It's usually cats in trees that need a firefighter's help but not Friday, when two dogs were rescued by San Francisco firefighters after sliding halfway down a cliff.

San Francisco Fire Department spokesman Lt. Jonathan Baxter says the dogs got stuck on a cliff at Fort Funston. A 14-member crew helped in their rescue.

But Baxter says it was firefighter paramedic Art Julaton who was lowered down to strap the dogs in a harness and carry them back up to firm land, where they wagged their tales in gratitude.

Baxter says the dogs were not hurt but reminds dog owners to keep an eye on their furry friends.

He says Fort Funston is a popular area for dog walking and hiking.

— Associated Press

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Nevada City Chamber of Commerce Presents The 26th Anniversary Celebration of February 18, 2018

Mardi Gras Parade

Fun & Festive for the entire family!
2 p.m. • Broad Street

Bring lawn chairs, Mardi Gras beads and festive attire!

Mardi Gras Street Faire

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. • Pine & Commercial Streets
Crafts, Vendors, Food and Fun for everyone!

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